



The Journey

Volume XXXIII No. 12

June 17, 2025

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On June 5, Walter Brueggeman passed away at the wonderful age of 92. You may not know his name, but many of us in the world of ministry and Bible genuflect when we hear it. Dr. Brueggeman was, for many years, the leading Old Testament scholar in the US, if not the world. I had the blessing of seeing and hearing him over the years and am grateful to have had numerous books (he wrote 100!) of his on my shelves.

In a tribute to Brueggeman, Jason Edwards of The Christian Century, described him in this way:

Brueggemann didn't give us easy answers. He gave us tension. He gave us poetry. He gave us language when our own ran dry.

In his hands, the Bible was never a museum piece or a proof-texting tool, it was a living, aching, burning thing—capable of unsettling us, reorienting us, and sometimes saving us. He reminded us that the Psalms know how to wail. That prophets don't predict so much as provoke. That Pharaoh still builds store cities and God still hears the cries from the brickyards.

Well said.

I can relate to Edwards' experience, that Brueggeman made the Bible "a living, aching, burning thing, capable of unsettling us, reorienting us, and sometimes saving us." And that, to me, was his superpower, one I desire for many others to experience. He made the Bible, especially the Old Testament, come alive for many for whom the Bible was little more than decoration on the coffee table.

What a powerful legacy. And what a powerful call to those of us who continue in ministry, to make the Bible so alive that people are "unsettled" by its impact on our lives. I pray that we all find inspiration that leads us to reclaim the reorienting quality of the Scriptures.

Brad

COME, INVITE A FRIEND, AND BE SOCIAL!

Following church service on June 22nd we will be having our Summer Salad Social. Please sign up here to bring a salad/dish to share:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949AFA728A1FD0-56970141-summer>

Sincerely, Sharifa



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

There will be a Congregational Meeting following the Worship Service, on **Sunday, June 29**, for the election of new Church Officers.

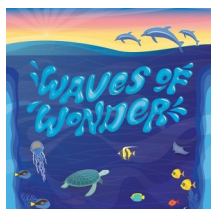
The *Journey* is published on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

The **deadline** for *Journey* submissions is **9:00 a.m. Thursday, June 26**. Email to: publisher@fcc-hsv.org

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VBS 2025



Vacation Bible School is rapidly approaching! Our event will be July 7-10th (Monday-Thursday) and will be themed Waves of Wonder. Volunteer sign ups have been placed in the narthex or you can email Alyssa to get signed up! Every year this event gives us the opportunity to minister to about 80 children between the ages of 3 and exiting 3rd in ECM, our church family, and the community at large! This event is so fun and meaningful for all involved!

We are currently still in need of a couple of people to be group helpers/leaders. These volunteers will assist children in getting place to place.

I also want to share the VBS wish list. This is a great way to contribute to the success of the event. Not everyone wants to or can volunteer in person, donations give us the opportunity to make our event shine with a lessened budgetary impact! The last day to order from this wishlist is Sunday, June 22nd! See the link for access to the Wishlist amazon.com/hz/wishlist/lis/32Z0PRXO9G7BU?ref=wl_share

OUTREACH FOR JUNE & JULY

First Stop for the Homeless partners with agencies in a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to offer case management, medical care, mental health care, and other services to the homeless community. Through Outreach efforts, our bustling Day Center, and comprehensive Case Management program, we help to provide a path out of homelessness. This approach is intentional in its focus on empowering (not enabling) the homeless community towards independent living.

You can support this organization with donations made by noting "First Stop" for any amount, by check to FCC or our PayPal account by clicking on the Donate button on our website at fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-give For more information, go to the First Stop, Inc., website at firststop.org



JUNE PANTRY NEEDS

Critical Shortage:

Shelf-Stable Milk

(Dollar Tree \$1.25)

Chicken/Tuna

Chef Boyardee

Ongoing:

Saltines

Soup

Jelly

Fruit



HABITAT HOME #30 UPDATE

The Habitat Office decided to organize their 2025 Spring Home Building program differently this year. They started 4 homes at the same time early in the year. Our church was not ready to participate at that time since many possible volunteer workers had not attended the Habitat Safety program.

My past experience has been to start the new home in the wall-building phase in the warehouse and then move out to the home site to finish it. This is the best way to appreciate how a home is built from the ground up. The next new-start homes will be in the Fall after the current 4 homes are completed. I have asked Habitat to assign FCC to one of these next homes to work along with other churches. This will be a cooler time to work outside as well.

In the meantime, now is your chance to attend one of the zoom safety lectures so you will be ready to work in the Fall. The bulletin board outside of the Parlor has the schedule for these safety lectures.

Contact me if you have any other questions.

Thanks, Bob Senn, Mr. Habitat for FCC



THE FOOD BASKET is given in memory of Gina, Reggie, and Mary Anderson.

ATTENDANCE

June 8: Worship Service: 103

Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 24

June 15 Worship Service: 91

Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 16